

Appl. No. 09/916,091
Amdt. Dated, March 3, 2005
Reply to Office Action of December 3, 2004

Amendment to the Drawings:

The attached sheets of drawings include “formal” drawings. These sheets, which include FIGS. 1 -18, replace all previously submitted drawings. Please note there have been no revisions made to these drawings, as far as elements etc.; only to the margins and size of said drawings so that they meet the “formal” requirements of the United States Patent Office.

REMARKS

I. INTRODUCTION

The present Amendment E is submitted to be fully responsive to the Office Action dated December 3, 2004, which states under PERIOD FOR REPLY,

“ b) The period for reply expires on:... (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, which ever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection.”

It should be noted that the mailing date of the final rejection was September 3, 2004 thus, this sets a statutory period for response of 6 months expiring on March 3, 2005.

The present Amendment is being faxed on March 1, 2005, to the U.S.P.T.O. at fax number (571)273-0125 and will be mailed by U. S. Mail thereby complying with the 6 month due date of March 3, 2005.

It should be expressly noted that the cancellation of the claims as noted hereinabove (which are claims 11-31 and claim 36) will leave only “allowed” claims 32, 33, 34 and 35.

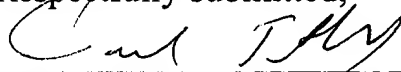
It is undersigned attorney's understanding that in accordance with discussions with Examiner Theresa Trieu and Mr. Thomas Denion that all are in agreement that this case will be allowed with the above revisions.

Ms. Trieu, I am planning on filing a continuation case with the same specification, but including the "unallowed" or cancelled claims hereinabove (claims 11-31 and claim 36). I am also planning to, of course, rearrange/revise the order and/or language of the claims as required by renumbering and review which will be necessary. It is further the undersigned attorney's understanding that this continuation case will have to be filed before the issue date of the above captioned case.

I am assuming that March 3, 2005 is not the deadline for filing this and I will try to call or have my secretary call in the interim.

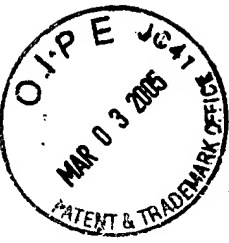
It is accordingly believed that a favorable reconsideration, of the prior art relied upon and the grounds of rejection, is believed in order and such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



Paul F. Stutz (Reg. No. 18, 754)
Attorney for Applicant

Paul F. Stutz
520 Madison Ave., Suite 964
Toledo, OH 43604
(419)241-4211




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CERTIFICATION OF SERVICE

This is to certify that:

the original AMENDMENT E (Dated March 3, 2004)(P-954-A-2) inclusive of new drawings 1 through 18 was Faxed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 at Fax No. **(571)273-0125** accompanied by a Certificate of Facsimile Transmission (Form 8-7) **on** this **1st** day of **March, 2005**, and

deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail postage prepaid in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on **March 3, 2005**.


Paul F. Stutz